

MULTIMEDIA



UNIVERSITY

STUDENT ID NO

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MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY

FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 1, 2018/2019

PGP1010 – ENGLISH FOR GENERAL PURPOSES

(All sections / groups)

20 OCTOBER 2018

2.30P.M.- 4.30P.M.

(2 Hours)

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

1. This Question Paper consists of **fourteen** pages.
2. Answer **ALL** questions in **Sections A and B**.
3. Write the **Answers in the Question Paper itself**.

SECTION A: READING COMPREHENSION [30 MARKS]

Instructions: There are thirty questions in this paper. For each question, choose the most appropriate answer.

Questions 1 to 7 are based on the following passage.

- 1 Pygmy elephants living in dense jungles on Borneo island face a growing 1
threat to survival as their homes get cut down for timber or plantations, pushing
the animals into conflicts with humans, experts said. The warning is a result of
Asia's largest project for the satellite-tracking of elephants, in which wildlife
researchers fitted five animals with radio-transmitting collars to record their 5
wanderings, the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) said.
- 2 There are fewer than 1,500 pygmy elephants in Borneo, and they are
threatened by the loss of forests in Sabah because their huge size requires large
feeding grounds and viable breeding populations.
- 3 "The conversion of forests to plantations remains the biggest threat to 10
Sabah's elephants because no plantation can provide the types and amounts of
foods necessary to sustain breeding populations," WWF said in a report published
recently.
- 4 Pygmy elephants are smaller and less aggressive than other Asian
elephants, with shorter trunks and smaller faces that give them a rotund 15
appearance. They are also genetically different, and never seem to have spread
beyond the northeast part of Borneo to other areas of the Southeast Asian island,
scientists say.
- 5 Though Sabah has lost nearly half its forest cover to plantations and human
settlement over the last 40 years, it still has one of the largest contiguous areas of 20
habitat for elephants left in Asia. However, the region, which sprawls over
600,000 to 800,000 hectares, continues to be under threat. "In one day an
elephant needs to have more than 200 kg of food, and if the lowland forests are
converted to oil palm or other uses, that will reduce the food sources for them.
And, we still don't know whether they will be able to adapt to the highland forest 25
food sources," said Raymond Alfred, of the WWF's Sabah project.
- 6 Conflict with people is increasing as the elephants' habitat shrinks, the
WWF says in the report, which draws on additional tracking efforts besides the
year-long satellite study to paint an alarming picture of the situation the animals
face. 30
- 7 About a fifth of elephants living in a wildlife reserve, the Lower
Kinabatangan Wildlife Sanctuary, have suffered gruesome injuries from illegal
snare, often set by plantation workers to catch smaller game animals.
- 8 "In terms of the way the elephants react when they see people, they are
more aggressive compared to the last three to five years," Alfred said. 35
- 9 The WWF says the elephant population can be preserved through measures
such as marking out and reserving the corridors the animals use to travel through
the forest and halting the trend of converting forests into plantations. The other
steps that would help include curbing disturbances from timber felling and
intrusions by plantation workers, besides more surveys and satellite tracking to 40
increase knowledge of the elephants' behaviour, the researchers said.

Continued...

- 11 Forestry and wildlife officials in Sabah had agreed to help preserve the elephant's stamping grounds through sustainable management of large tracts of forest. For example, last month, the state promised to **earmark** about 180,000 hectares of forest that are crucial for the orang - utan and the rhinoceros, as well as the elephant and use sustainable forestry techniques there, Alfred added. 45

(Adapted from *S Borneo planters, loggers a threat to elephants*: WWF. Clarence Fernandez.
<https://www.reuters.com/article/us-malaysia-elephants/borneo-planters-loggers-a-threat-to-elephants-wwf-idUSL0814628220070809>. 2018)

1. If forest trees are cut down are replanted, there will be enough food for the elephants.
A. True
B. False
C. Not stated

- As half of the forests in Sabah have been converted to plantations, the elephants' habitat is now almost destroyed.
2.
A. True
B. False
C. Not stated

- When elephants are driven to highland forests in search of food, they might not adapt to the food there.
3.
A. True
B. False
C. Not stated

- The following are ways to preserve the elephant population **except**
4.
A. maintaining the elephants' route through the forest
B. acquiring more knowledge about elephant behaviour
C. capturing the elephants and keeping them in a wildlife reserve

- The word *earmark* (line 44) means
5.
A. to set aside something for future use
B. to change something into a new form
C. to decide that something will be disposed of

- We can conclude that the pygmy elephants
6.
A. will soon become extinct
B. will pose a danger to humans with increasing contact with them
C. can be preserved if sustainable forestry techniques are implemented

- The main purpose of the article is to
7.
A. highlight human threat to elephants
B. commend the work of WWF with elephants
C. provide information about elephant behaviour

Continued...

Questions 8 to 14 are based on the following passage.

- 1 Chocolate has been said to cause acne and tooth decay, and has a reputation 1
for being a fattening, non-nutritious food. On the other hand, chocolate is also
known for being everything from an anti-depressant to an aphrodisiac. While there
is still much we do not know about chocolate, recent research is helping us better
understand how chocolate consumption affects our health. 5
- 2 The good news is that most of the bad effects of eating chocolate are either
overstated or entirely false. Eating chocolate neither causes nor aggravates acne.
Two studies – one by the Pennsylvania School of Medicine and another by the
U.S. Naval Academy – showed that eating chocolate (or not eating it) did not
produce any significant changes in the acne conditions of the study's participants. 10
These results are further backed by research which shows that acne is not primarily
linked to diet.
- 3 Chocolate also has not been proven to cause cavities or tooth decay. In
fact, there are indications that the cocoa butter in the chocolate coats the teeth and
may help protect them by preventing plaque from forming. The sugar in chocolate 15
does contribute to cavities, but no more than the sugar in any other food.
- 4 Obviously, eating too much of any food may cause health problems. The
cocoa butter in chocolate does contain saturated fat, which can increase blood
cholesterol levels, and high cholesterol can contribute to heart disease. However,
recent research at the University of California Davis, has found that chocolate 20
carries high levels of chemicals known as phenolics, some of which may help
lower the risk of heart disease. Plants such as chocolate, coffee, tea and others
contain high levels of phenolics.
- 5 Andrew Waterhouse, a lead researcher from the university, is a wine
chemist. For several years he has been studying the possible health benefits of 25
antioxidant phenolics found in red wine. Waterhouse told us that phenolic
compounds are found in all plant products, and that the plants "probably make
them as protective agents to improve their success at reproduction". The bitter,
astringent taste that these plants have is an indication of the phenolics found
within. 30
- 6 So how might phenolics prevent heart disease? Apparently, phenolics
prevent fat-like substances in the bloodstream from oxidising and clogging the
arteries. Waterhouse said, "It's now believed that atherosclerosis, or the formation
of plaque in the arteries, is caused by oxidation of LDL (low-density lipoproteins)
– that's one of the cholesterol particles. At first, this leads to subtle damage, and 35
then eventually to the formation of advanced plaque". The build-up of plaque can
lead to the clogging of arteries and a major cause of heart attacks.
- 7 While phenolics have chemically been proven to reduce oxidation,
Waterhouse cautioned that, "It is not known if the phenolic compounds, like the
flavanoids that are present in chocolate, can reduce disease. It's well known that 40
these substances are antioxidants in a chemical sense but we don't have strong,
large-scale, controlled human studies." More researches still need to be done, but
certainly the initial research is encouraging.

(Adapted from *Chocolate: Health Help or Risk?*
https://www.exploratorium.edu/exploring/exploring_chocolate/choc_7.html. 2018)

Continued...

8. Chocolate is believed to
 - A. cause acne
 - B. cause depression
 - C. help overcome obesity
9. The two studies have concluded that
 - A. cocoa butter causes tooth decay
 - B. chocolate is safe for consumption
 - C. there is no correlation between acne and chocolate consumption
10. High level of phenolics can
 - A. lower the risk of arteries clogging
 - B. enhance the chances of heart attacks
 - C. help reduce the build-up of antioxidants in the body
11. Which of the following can cause heart diseases?
 - A. Phenolics
 - B. Saturated fat
 - C. Cocoa butter
12. Arteries in the heart clog as a direct result of
 - A. consuming antioxidant phenolics
 - B. excessive intake of coffee, tea and chocolates
 - C. oxidization of fatty substances in the bloodstream
13. Atherosclerosis
 - A. causes arteries to clog
 - B. causes damage to blood vessels
 - C. leads to the quick build-up of plaque
14. What does *the initial research is encouraging* (line 43) refer to?
 - A. Phenolics can prevent diseases.
 - B. Flavanoids are present in chocolate.
 - C. Flavanoids can reduce cholesterol oxidation.

Continued...

Questions 15 to 22 are based on the following passage.

- 1 You might think your dreams are nothing more than jumbled images that 1
do not always make a lot of sense. Perhaps they do not seem to have much
relevance to any real-life problems you may have, but many experts believe
dreams can be a rich source of information about us and our underlying concerns.
They can be seen as commenting on our experiences, or reminding us of issues 5
we are not confronting. It is as though the problem is tugging away at our
subconscious, trying to tell us that we need to do something about it.
- 2 “Dreams often come at times when you have to rethink your life, and the
more you explore your dreams, the more they can help you understand yourself,”
says Jennifer Parker, a psychologist and member of the Association for the Study 10
of Dreams, UK. “It’s as though once you start trying to understand them, your
mind co-operates and gives you dreams that are more meaningful.”
- 3 Many experts believe that at the back of our minds, we already know what
our dreams mean, but part of us does not recognise this because we do not want
to face up to certain truths. Unearthing genuine meaning from dreams requires a 15
degree of honesty.
- 4 If someone you are involved with appears in your dream, it makes sense
that your dream is trying to tell you something about your relationship. However,
when you cannot understand why a stranger or acquaintance is in your dream,
then they are probably just representing someone else, or perhaps yourself. So, 20
be warned. A dream character who arouses strong feelings – negative or positive
– may well be representing certain sides of yourself that you have been trying
5 hard to avoid.
- Dream characters can also be key people from your past, particularly your
parents, as our important childhood relationships and experiences influence our 25
future relationships too. Dreams can also help point out the conflicts from our
past, which you are repeating or trying to put right and come to terms with in
your present relationships.
- 6 What the people in your dreams are doing also reveal meaning. Are they
raving, shouting or chasing each other? If so, what are they really saying? Did 30
you have power over what was going on or were you the helpless victim? If you
dream of being chased, it can, say experts, mean a conflict between what you are
afraid of and yet also secretly longing for. Fights, battles and hunts often point to
7 struggles between different parts of your personality.
- Feelings that go with dreams are sometimes a bit exaggerated but rarely 35
distorted in any other way, and so can provide vital clues. If that is the case and
the events themselves made no sense, put aside what happened and concentrate
on how they made you feel. For example, if you felt deeply ashamed about
something that happened in your dream, ask yourself if that is an emotion you
have experienced recently in real life and what caused it. It could be that you are 40
still feeling uncomfortable and embarrassed about it and this is your subconscious
8 letting you know.
- Many experts believe our most powerful dreaming and waking images
have universal meanings for everyone. However, this does not mean that literally
looking up an image in a dream dictionary is enough. The interpretations are too 45
simplistic because dreams are concerned with your personal problems, and only
you know these well enough to make links between the dream and your present

Continued...

9 situation.

To discover what the images mean to you, it is a good idea to note down memories and ideas *they* spontaneously trigger before concentrating on the images themselves. See what makes sense to you and feels near the mark. The connection may lie in word play, colours, values, size and shape. 50

Vivid recurring dreams often start at times of stress or transition, when you have to rethink your life. You may be pregnant, divorcing, changing jobs or coping with bereavement, and dreams tend to make links between present and past traumas. 55

Sometimes, say experts, these kinds of dreams can be seen as a kind of dress rehearsal for life – a way of trying to practise coping. It is as if your subconscious is working out what you would do if the worst did happen.

(Adapted from *Why we dream*. <https://www.webmd.com/sleep-disorders/guide/dreaming-overview#1>. 2014)

15. *Our underlying concerns* (line 4) refers to

- A. our experiences
- B. our subconscious
- C. information about ourselves
- D. issues we are not confronting

16. *Unearthing genuine meaning from dreams requires a degree of honesty* (lines 15-16).

This means that you have to be honest with

- A. others to discover the real meaning of your dreams
- B. yourself to discover the true meaning of your dreams
- C. others to discover the hidden meaning of your dreams
- D. yourself to discover the hidden meaning of your dreams

Continued...

17. Dream characters could represent
- I ourselves
 - II our parents
 - III strangers or acquaintances
 - IV someone we are involved with
- A. I, II and III only
B. I, II and IV only
C. I, III and IV only
D. II, III and IV only
18. What is the main idea in paragraph 8?
- A. We should connect our dreams to reality.
B. Dreams have universal meanings for everyone.
C. Dreams are always about our real-life problems.
D. We should believe in our dreams and their interpretations
19. How do feelings provide important clues to the meaning of our dreams?
- A. They give meaning to senseless events in our dreams.
B. They are sometimes exaggerated and usually distorted.
C. Our subconscious reveals our true feelings through our dreams.
D. Our subconscious reveals our embarrassments through our dreams.
20. What does the word *they* (line 49) refer to?
- A. Ideas
B. Notes
C. Images
D. Memories
21. Why does the writer refer to dreams as a *dress rehearsal for life*? (line 57)
- A. We figure out solutions to potential problems.
B. We remember past characters that we have forgotten.
C. We learn how to solve our problems through our dreams.
D. We remember feelings and images from our dreams to settle our conflicts.
22. Which of the following is **not true** about dreams?
- A. They help us solve our conflicts.
B. They help us to predict the future.
C. They help us to understand ourselves.
D. They recur when we have to rethink our life.

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Questions 23 to 30 are based on the following passage.

- 1 When Becky Thomas was eight years old, she used to play 'school' with her 1
sisters. Being the daughter of two teachers, it was not difficult to do: the tools were
all at home. There were always lots of schoolbooks available, and also the
stationery – red ink pens, markers and chalks. Besides that, there was an extra 5
room downstairs equipped with a blackboard which her father used for his tuition
classes.
- 2 Today, Becky, who is in her early 40s, works with children every day at an
international school in Chennai, South India, where she has been living for the last
29 years. "I teach at the American International School Chennai (AISC) and have
been teaching there since 1995. I taught in an international school in Indonesia for 10
two years prior to that. Now, I teach Grade 3 children who are about nine years
old," said Becky.
- 3 Her inspiration for becoming a teacher no doubt came from her family. Most of
her uncles and aunties were teachers too. It seemed as if teaching is in her blood.
"Teaching has always been considered a noble profession. My father was a teacher 15
for more than 40 years. He taught with conviction and was well-liked by his
pupils. My mother, who has to retire due to illness after putting in 45 years as a
teacher, still has students visiting her even today. It is no wonder they are my
source of inspiration," said Becky.
- 4 After completing Form Five, Becky went to India for a vacation and then 20
continued her studies in Madras University. She did a Bachelor's degree in
Science and then pursued a Bachelor's in Education at the Annamalai University.
She made many friends and enjoyed living there. It was during this time that she
fell in love with a local Indian businessman and settled down. Two children came
soon after. Having a family, however, did not stop Becky from pursuing a career in 25
teaching. It was her love for children that gave her the courage to walk down the
teaching path.
- 5 "To watch a little child make his or her first stroke with a pencil or to hear a
child sing a song from the depths of his heart, or to see a little face light up after
reading a whole line for the first time ... nothing can compare to that," said Becky 30
when she was asked about teaching children. She started teaching in a local Indian
school as a kindergarten teacher and then slowly worked her way up to teaching
English in Standard Five. She said that even after all these years of teaching, her
delight in listening to a child has not diminished!
- 6 The AISC, according to Becky, was started by a few families who felt that their 35
children would not fit into the local Indian schools because of the different teaching
style. Also, the lack of facilities in local schools was a concern to these expatriate
families. The American Consulate listened to their pleas as two of the three
families were American. So with the help of the Consulate, the school was born.
Today, the AISC has a beautiful campus available for the children of expatriates 40
from any country to study in. The school offers a very American-based curriculum.
There is swimming, music instruction, drama and other interesting subjects.
- 7 "I love teaching especially because of the diverse community," said Becky. "I
teach language arts (English), Maths and Social Studies." The teaching approach
in international schools is different. Here, most of the work is hands on, the 45
children learn by doing and seeing. It is a challenge to the teacher to provide

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different stimuli to encourage learning. "The teachers are not bound by any textbook. There is a curriculum but how we teach and what we have to do is basically up to each individual teacher. Another difference is the classroom atmosphere. It has to be inviting and safe to promote efficient learning. So the teachers at our school go to great lengths to make the classroom exciting or homely as the case may be," added Becky. 50

8 Becky often shares tales about her home country with her students, and it helps that one of her students hails from Malaysia too. She also usually starts off the year by giving the children in her class the Malaysian welcome of 'Selamat Datang'. 55 While she was schooling here, Becky had many favourite teachers and of course, a handful of teachers that she did not really like. "I cannot remember any particular teacher who left a lasting impression on me as a child, but now as a teacher and adult, I often marvel at the way one of my former colleagues managed to control children of five different age groups in one classroom. The children, who studied 60 in Grades One to Five, were all together in one room. There were 20 children and the teacher, Gina Romanos, kept every single child involved in some learning activity all through the school day. That left a lasting impression on me," said Becky.

9 Apart from her involvement at school, Becky also keeps busy with extra-curricular activities. She is involved with Mellow Circle, a group who helps the poor and sick. "We put up a children's musical every year. We also conduct summer camps and other activities," she said. Her active involvement at school and community keeps Becky busy all year through, but she still finds time to come home to Malaysia during the summer or Christmas holidays. 70

(Adapted from *Becky Thomas*. The Star. 15 December 2013).

23. *When Becky Thomas was eight years old, she used to play school with her sisters.* (line 1-2) This sentence means that she
- A. and her sisters used to play in school
 - B. used to go to the same play-school as her sisters
 - C. started attending school when she was eight years old
 - D. played with her sisters in an imaginary school during her childhood.
24. Becky has been teaching for 29 years in
- A. Madras university
 - B. the local Indian school
 - C. an Indian international school
 - D. an international school in Indonesia
25. The statement *to watch a little child ... nothing can compare to that* (lines 27-29) expresses Becky's
- A. passion for teaching children
 - B. achievement in guiding children to learn
 - C. feeling of satisfaction in teaching children
 - D. feeling of happiness in knowing that her students have learned something

Continued...

26. What led to the establishment of the American International School Chennai (AISC)?

- I Shortage of facilities in local schools
- II High enrolment of children from various races
- III Parents who wanted to have an American-based curriculum
- IV Expatriate children could not fit into the local schools

- A. I and II
- B. I and IV
- C. II and III
- D. II and IV

27. What is the notable difference between AISC and the local schools?

- A. Flexibility of curriculum
- B. Classroom environment
- C. Teaching and learning methods
- D. Textbook usage in the curriculum

28. The statement 'That left a lasting impression on me' (line 63) refers to Becky's

- A. admiration for a colleague
- B. memories of her schooling days
- C. experience in teaching at the AISC
- D. excitement when she started teaching at the AISC

29. Which of the following characters best describes Becky?

- A. Patient
- B. Inspiring
- C. Ambitious
- D. Dedicated

30. Which of the following is not true?

- A. Teaching is a great profession.
- B. Safe atmosphere promotes efficient learning.
- C. One needs to have the love for the children to teach them.
- D. American-based curriculum has involved many school and community activities.

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MCQ Answer Sheet

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| 1. <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D | 26. <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D |
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| 9. <input type="radio"/> A <input type="radio"/> B <input type="radio"/> C <input type="radio"/> D | |
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SECTION B: WRITING [20 MARKS]

Instructions: You are advised to spend about **50 minutes** on this task.

Social media postings are more damaging than beneficial. Do you agree with this statement? Support your opinion with examples. You should write in **at least 350** words.

[illegible]

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14/14